

## **STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-08-14**

June 4, 2014

The following is in response to your correspondence dated May 7, 2014 in which you are seeking a formal interpretation regarding the following questions:

### **Question 1:**

In accordance with Section 210.12(A) of the 2011 National Electrical Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code, are AFCI required for bedroom closets if the closet light switch is located within the closet?

### **Answer 1:**

No, closets were specifically deleted in the 2013 Supplement to the 2011 National Electrical Code.

### **Question 2:**

In accordance with Section 210.12(A) of the 2011 National Electrical Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code, are AFCI required for bedroom closets if the closet light switch is located within the bedroom?

### **Answer 2:**

No, although the switch is located in the bedroom, it primarily serves the closet which is not required to be protected.

### **Question 3:**

In accordance with Section 210.12(A) of the 2011 National Electrical Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code, are AFCI required for bedroom closets if the closet contains receptacle outlets?

### **Answer 3:**

No, closets were specifically deleted in the 2013 Supplement to the 2011 National Electrical Code.

If the devices in a closet are on a circuit which also feeds a bedroom (as they usually are in new construction), then they would be protected by virtue of being on that circuit. In existing work, the addition of an AFCI would be required when a new circuit is installed originating at a panel and feeding devices in a bedroom or as required by Sections 210.12(B) or Section 406.4(D)(4) of the 2011 National Electrical Code.